

SCHOOL INFORMATION: Worlds of Work Program (WOW)

WOW- Worlds of Work is a program facilitated through the Foundation for Young Australians. WOW operates across Australia and its primary aim is to build young peoples’ belief in their ability to transition from school successfully. Throughout the program students are provided with continuous opportunities to broaden their horizons regarding their futures outside the school classroom.

Program Format:

WOW in WSR is a program aimed at Year 10 students. Throughout the duration of the WOW program students are exposed to various activities / workshops designed to increase personal development and employability skills.

Emphasis on skills like leadership, communication, initiative and teamwork become the core of this program. Opportunities are presented for students to engage with employers and their employees in several large companies who share in the partnership of the WOW program. A short explanatory video is available utube;

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3L5qLv7D5qA>

All activities that students are exposed to are facilitated by an FYA staff member along with 1-2 WSR WOW facilitators from our schools. Throughout the program staff members from the local Partnership Brokers may also be in attendance as well as WSR VET Consultancy staff.

Program Dates:

In 2013 WSR will be offering 2 WOW weeks.

* 13th-17th May 2013. This program will be held in Penrith
* 9th-13th September 2013. This program will be held in Parramatta.

Program Venues:

The locations chosen for these 2 weeks have been chosen due to their central location to a major rail connection. It is a key component of the organisation of the WOW weeks that students are able to access the venue independently. Students will need to pay their own transportation costs to the venue. In 2012 both of these venues were very successful and localised employers are keen to participate in the 2013 programs.

At this stage the venue for the courses has not been finalised however schools will be notified when these details have been negotiated.

Program Time Frame:

The WOW program operates for a whole school week- 5 days straight.

Students who are unable to commit to the full 5 days should not be considered as participants of this program.

The days are long for students; 8.30am-4pm daily. Again because of the comprehensive daily activities these times are non- negotiable.

WOW Program Cost:

As a licensed program WOW belongs to the Foundation for Young Australians. As such there is a fee of $100 per student.

Students will be required to pay $40 to their school. WSR will subsidise the remainder of each students’ course cost.

STUDENTS:

Number of students:

The WOW program caters for a maximum of 25 students in each course.

Student Year:

The WOW program in WSR is being offered to Year 10 students only.

Expectations of students;

Students who wish to participate in the WOW program are those who are considering continuing into the senior school. These students however have not reached their full potential and require an activity that will inspire them and give them the self-confidence to aim higher. These students may be disengaged with their learning however they do not meet criteria that affords them opportunities with outside agencies.

Students who have leadership potential but insufficient confidence to lead would be excellent candidates for WOW.

Students for both WOW Weeks will be required to submit an application form. This form is available off the wiki.

The application form for the PENRITH WOW week should be sent to:

**Peter Rance**

**c/o Kingswood High School**

**PO Box 336, Kingswood. 2747**

The application is due by **COB Thursday 28th March 2013.**

Successful applicants will be notified before the end of Term 1. Students will then need to complete the WOW permission and medical information forms, which will be emailed and distributed by school contact personnel.

Unsuccessful student applications for the Penrith WOW week will not be automatically held over for the September program. Students are required to reapply when applications open.

After WOW;

FYA has a WOW program follow-up that they conduct. This follow-up occurs about 6 weeks after the program and is done directly with the students with FYA staff. The aim of the follow-up is to gather anecdotal information regarding the students’ opinions of any changes made to their lives as a result of their participation in the WOW program.

Further Information:

If you require further information;

* <http://www.fya.org.au/initiatives/worlds-of-work/>
* <http://vet-in-wsr.wikispaces.com/WOW+-+World+of+Work>

Please feel free to contact Hanna Kemp on 4724 8729 or via email at [hanna.kemp@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:hanna.kemp@det.nsw.edu.au) if you would like to discuss this further.

We look forward to working with your students on this very exciting initiative.